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IBM CORPORATION, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
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EXAMINER

WANG, JUE S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/798,906

Applicant(s)

DAVIS ET AL.

Examiner

Jue S. Wang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed March 11, 2004.
2. Claims 1-23 have been examined.

Specification

3. The specification is objected to because of the following minor informalities:

Page 3, paragraph [0009], line 8, the word “front-and” should be “front-end”.

Appropriate correction is needed.

Page 11, paragraph [0037], the figure label 211A for template form, 211B for template view, 211C for template shared action, and 211D for template agent do not exist in Fig 2. The corresponding labels in Fig 2. are 211 for template form, 212 for template view, 213 for template shared action, and 214 for template agent. Appropriate correction is required.

Page 18, paragraph [0056], line 4, the phrase “solving particular types business problems” should be “solving particular types of business problems”. Appropriate correction is required.

Page 20, paragraph [0063], line 2, the phrase “accordingly the following creation of an agent” should be “accordingly following the creation of an agent”. Appropriate correction is required.

The use of the trademark JAVA and C++ has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

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Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to because in Fig 6B, the label "TO 610" and "TO 602" should be "TO 605" instead. The specification discloses that the step following steps 613, 617, 643, and 646 should be step 605 (see page 19, paragraph [0062]). Additionally, step 646 should read "TIE FUNCTIONALITY TO AGENT" instead of "THE FUNCTIONALITY TO AGENT".

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the

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applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1 and 21 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 5, the word "front-and" should be "front-end".

Claim 21, line 9, the word "front-and" should be "front-end".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

6. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

7. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

With respect to claim 1 and 8, the "computer-readable medium," in accordance with applicant's specification, may be a signal-bearing medium (see page 6, paragraph [0023]). This subject matter is not limited to that which falls within a statutory category of invention because it is not limited to a process, machine, manufacture, or a composition of matter. Instead, it includes a form of energy. Energy does not fall within a statutory category since it is clearly not a series of steps or acts to constitute a process,

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not a mechanical device or combination of mechanical devices to constitute a machine, not a tangible physical article or object which is some form of matter to be a product and constitute a manufacture, and not a composition of two or more substances to constitute a composition of matter.

Claims 2-7 and 9-10 fail to resolve the deficiencies of claims 1 and 8; they merely disclose additional features of the application development template residing in the computer-readable medium of claims 1 and 8.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The current focus of the Patent Office in regard to statutory inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for method claims and claims that recite a judicial exception (software) is that the claimed invention recite a practical application. Practical application can be provided by a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result. No physical transformation is recited: the steps of providing templates, generating a form, view, shared-action, and agent from the corresponding templates, and combining the generated elements to define an application are merely instructions within a computer program. The claim merely cite the steps associated with using a standard application development template and does not cite a result, so it does not satisfy the requirement of producing a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

Claims 12-15 fail to resolve the deficiencies of claim 11. The additional steps disclosed in claims 12-15 are also instructions within a computer program and do not provide either a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result.

Claims 16-19 fail to resolve the deficiencies of claim 11. The limitations recited in claims 16-19 disclose additional features of the generated form, view, shared action, and agent recited in claim 11 and do not provide either a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The current focus of the Patent Office in regard to statutory inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for method claims and claims that recite a judicial exception (software) is that the claimed invention recite a practical application. Practical application can be provided by a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result. No physical transformation is recited: the steps of providing templates and generating applications using the templates are merely instructions within a computer program. The claim merely cite the steps associated with using a standard application development template and does not cite a result, so it does not satisfy the requirement of producing a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

Claim 21 fails to resolve the deficiencies of claim 20. The additional steps disclosed in claim 20 are also instructions within a computer program and do not provide either a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result.

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Claims 22 and 23 resolve the deficiencies of claim 20. The limitations recited in claims 22 and 23 disclose additional features of the templates recited in claim 20 and do not provide either a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Saimi et al., (US 2001/0047402 A1, published: 11/29/2001).

As per claim 1, Saimi et al. teaches a standard application development template residing in a computer-readable medium and configured to facilitate application development (i.e., templates stored in an external storage unit for developing web applications by automatically generating code from templates selected from a template list, see abstract, [0015], and [0073]), and the standard application development template comprising: a plurality of front-end templates configured for specifying user interface elements of an application under development, the front-end templates including at least one of each of: a template form; a template view; and a template shared action (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, and the servlet templates used to generate

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servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], [0080], and [0085]); and at least one back-end template configured for specifying background processes of the application under development, the back-end template including at least one template agent (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs business and data related processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

As per claim 2, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 1, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template form provides functionality directed to presenting and managing data (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]).

As per claim 3, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 1, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template view provides functionality directed to presenting database records (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present data retrieved by Beans from a database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]).

As per claim 4, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 1, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template shared action provides functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different

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components of an application (i.e., the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], and [0080]).

As per claim 5, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 1, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template agent provides functionality directed to execute and manage transactions running as background processes (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs business and data related processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

As per claim 6, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 1, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template form provides functionality directed to presenting and managing data (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]); and the template view provides functionality directed to presenting database records (i.e., the JSP templates corresponding to JSP components that generates HTML pages to present data retrieved by Beans from a database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]); and the template shared action provides functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application (i.e., the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the

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corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]).

As per claim 7, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 6, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the template agent provides functionality directed to execute and manage transactions running as background processes (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs business and data related processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

As per claim 8, Saimi et al. teaches a standard application development template residing in a computer-readable medium and configured to facilitate application development (i.e., templates stored in an external storage unit for developing web applications by automatically generating code from templates selected from a template list, see abstract, [0015], and [0073]), the standard application development template comprising:

a) a plurality of front-end templates configured for defining user interface elements of an application under development action (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, and the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]); and

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b) a plurality of back-end templates configured for defining background processes of the application under development (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs business and data related processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]);

wherein each of the plurality of templates is user-selectable and configured to be augmented with user-selected, project-specific elements (i.e., a template is selected from a template list that is displayed for each component to be generated, and code is written to the model in accordance with design specification obtained from the requirements and business specifications provided by customers, see [0015] and [0073]).

As per claim 9, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 8, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the front-end templates include at least one of: form templates configured for managing data; view templates configured for presenting database records; and shared action templates configured for coordinating transactions among different components (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, and the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], [0080], and [0085]).

As per claim 10, Saimi et al. teaches the standard application development template of claim 8, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the back-

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end templates include agents configured to manage actions running as background processes (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs processing related to business and data processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

As per claim 11, Saimi et al. teaches a computer implemented method of using a standard application development template (i.e., a method for developing web applications by automatically generating code from templates selected from a template list, see abstract and [0015]), comprising:

- providing front-end templates including at least template forms, template views and template shared actions (i.e., template selection screens display a list of JSP and servlet templates available for selection, see Fig 28, Fig 29, [0132], and [0133]);

- providing one or more back-end template components including at least template agents (i.e., a template selection screen displays a list of Bean template available for selection, see Fig 29 and [0133]);

- generating a form from the template forms (i.e., generating JSP components from JSP templates, see Fig 9, item 903, Fig 21, items 2116, 2117, 2118, and [0085]);

- generating a view from the template views (i.e., generating JSP components from JSP template, see Fig 9, item 903, Fig 21, items 2116, 2117, 2118, and [0085]) ;

- generating a shared action from the template shared actions (i.e., generating servlet components from servlet templates, see Fig 6, item 603, Fig 21, items 2101, 2102, 2103, and [0080]);

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generating an agent from the template shared agents (i.e., generating Bean components from Bean templates, see Fig 11, item 1103, Fig 21, items 2109, 2110, 2111, and [0088]); and

combining the generated form, view, shared action and agent to define an application (i.e., the method provides the framework of a web application system configured by the servlet, JSP, and Bean, see [0148]).

As per claim 12, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that generating the form from the template forms comprises: selecting a specific template form from the template forms (i.e., selecting a JSP template from a list of JSP templates, see Fig 29, items 2904, 2905, 2906, and [0133]); and specifying particular user interface functionality to be leveraged (i.e., JSP source code is created by processing the contents of a HTML file generated from the HTML file read from a design document, see Fig 33, items 3302, 3303, and [0141]).

As per claim 13, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that generating the view from the template views comprises: selecting a specific template view from the template views (i.e., selecting a JSP template from a list of JSP templates, see Fig 29, items 2904, 2905, 2906, and [0133]); and specifying particular database record presentation functionality to be leveraged (i.e., specifying the Bean to be used in the JSP where the Bean is used to access database records, see Fig 33, item 3306, Fig 34, items 1901, 3402, [0076], and [0142]).

As per claim 14, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that generating the shared action from the template shared action comprises: selecting a specific template shared action from the template shared actions (i.e., selecting a servlet template from a list of servlet templates, see Fig 28 and [0132]); and specifying particular component transaction coordination functionality to be leveraged (i.e., coordinating the transactions and interactions between Beans and JSPs, see Fig 27, [0129], and [0130]).

As per claim 15, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that generating the agent from the template agent comprises: selecting a specific template agent from the template agents (i.e., selecting a Bean template from a list of Bean templates, see Fig 29, items 2901, 2902, 2903 and [0133]); and specifying particular background processing functionality to be leveraged (i.e., generate the processing for executing the bean from the sequence diagram and read the method specification to generate methods in the Bean, see Fig 30, items 3007, 3012, 0137], and [0138]).

As per claim 16, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that template forms and the generated form are configured to present and manage data (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]).

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As per claim 17, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that template views and the generated view are configured to present database records (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present data retrieved by Beans from a database, see [0074], [0076], and [0085]).

As per claim 18, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that template shared actions and the generated shared actions are configured to coordinate transactions among different components (i.e., the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passes the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], and [0080]).

As per claim 19, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 11, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that template agents and the generated agents are configured to manage actions running as background processes (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs business and data related processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saimi et al., (US 2001/0047402 A1, published: 11/29/2001).

As per claim 20, Saimi et al. teaches a computer implemented method of using a standard application development template comprising (i.e., a method for developing web applications by automatically generating code from templates selected from a template list, see abstract and [0015]) comprising: providing templates; wherein the templates include front-end templates configured for defining user interface elements of an application under development (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, and the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passing the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], [0080], and [0085]) and back-end templates configured for defining background processes of the application under development (i.e., the Bean templates used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs processing related to business and data processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]); and generating web applications using the template components (i.e., the method provides the framework of a web application system configured by the servlet, JSP, and Bean, see [0148]).

Saimi et al. does not specifically disclose that the provided templates are configured to provide standard functionality facilitating document management and the web application generated is a document management application.

Saimi does teach that templates are used to generate web applications. It is well known in the art that web applications incorporating a database often provide a document management system, as document management is a fundamental functionality that is typically required in most web service. Since the method of Saimi et al. provides several points of customization through sequence diagrams, data specification and method specification (see [0074]), as well as a means of modifying the generated web application (see [0143] and [0148]), it is obvious that the web application generated by the method of Saimi et al. can be easily adapted to provide document management functionalities.

As per claim 21, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 20, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that generating document management applications using the templates comprises:

receiving user selections of one or more of the front-end templates (i.e., selecting a JSP template from a list of JSP templates, see Fig 29, items 2904, 2905, 2906, and [0133]);

receiving user specifications of project specific functions to be incorporated into the selected one or more front-end templates (i.e., JSP source code is created by processing the contents of a HTML file generated from the HTML file read from a design document, see Fig 33, items 3302, 3303, and [0141]);

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receiving user selections of one or more of the back-end templates (i.e., selecting a Bean template from a list of Bean templates, see Fig 29, items 2901, 2902, 2903 and [0133]); and

receiving user specifications of project specific functions to be incorporated into the selected one or more back-end templates (i.e., generate the processing for executing the bean from the sequence diagram and read the method specification to generate methods in the Bean, see Fig 30, items 3007, 3012, 0137], and [0138]).

As per claim 22, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 20, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the front-end templates include template forms, template views and template shared actions; wherein template forms are used to present and manage data, template views are used to present database records and template shared actions are used to coordinate transactions among different components (i.e., the JSP templates used to generate JSP components that generates HTML pages to present and manage data retrieved from the database, and the servlet templates used to generate servlet components that executes requests from the client by issuing requests to the corresponding Bean and passes the Bean to the JSP so that data gathered from the Bean can be retrieved and presented, see [0074], [0076], [0080], and [0085]).

As per claim 23, Saimi et al. teaches the method of claim 20, which has been addressed. Saimi et al. further teaches that the back-end components include template agents; wherein the template agents are background processes (i.e., the Bean templates

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used to generate Beans that accesses databases on the server side, and performs processing related to business and data processing, see [0074], [0076], and [0088]).

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Hossain et al. (US 5671415) is cited to teach a system and method for facilitating software development.
- Fowlow et al. (US 5860004) is cited to teach a code generator for applications in distributed object systems.
- Buxton et al. (US 5970252) is cited to teach a method and apparatus for loading components in a component system.
- Cohen (US 6263352 B1) is cited to teach automated web site creation using template driven generation of active server page applications.
- Huck et al. (US 7111231) is cited to teach a system and methodology for dynamic application environment employing runtime execution templates.
- Wong et al. (US 2002/0080200 A1) is cited to teach a method and apparatus for implementing a web application.
- Gunjal et al. (US 2003/0221184 A1) is cited to teach a template-based application development system.
- Curry et al. (US 2003/0233631 A1) is cited to teach a web services development method.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jue S. Wang whose telephone number is (571) 270-1655. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 am - 5:00pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xiao Wu can be reached on (571) 272-7761. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

J.W.
2/1/2007


XIAO WU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER